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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 DJIBOUTI 000747

SIPDIS

Dept for ECA/PE/V/G/A and AF/PD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAO](#) [OEXC](#) [SCUL](#) [DJ](#)

SUBJECT: DJIBOUTI: 2005 INTERNATIONAL VISITOR NOMINATIONS

SUMMARY

1. (U) Djibouti proposes three candidates for International Visitors Programs in 2005. END SUMMARY
2. (U) Djibouti is host to the only U.S. military base in Africa and a strategic partner in the War on Terror. Exposure to Americans has been limited and the population, which is 90 percent Muslim, is often ambivalent about the United States and our presence in country. As the only French speaking country in English speaking East Africa, our ability to tap into regional resources is limited. We believe the international visitors program is an important step to building strong Francophone support in this front line state in the GWOT
3. (U) Post has made every effort to focus on our critical core MPP priorities in nominations including support of the Combined Joint Task Force Horn of Africa, the development of the host relationship with the International Board of Broadcasters and good governance and development issues.

NOMINEES

4. (U) Please find post's nominees in priority order for 2005:

Program: Transparency and Good Governance, March 7 - 25, 2005

- A. Nominee's Full Name Hawa Ahmed Youssouf
- B: Home Address n/a
- Telephone: 253 35 34 09
- Email: n/a
- C. Date and Place of Birth: 9/11/66, Djibouti
- D. Gender: F
- E. Medical, Physical, Dietary, other restrictions: Muslim Diet
- F. Present Position and Title: Minister of Promotion of Women, Well-being and Social Affairs
- G. Current Institutional Affiliation: Ministry of Social Affairs
- H. Work Experience: Advisor to the Minister of Finance (1991-1998); Second governor of the World Bank, Djibouti (1992-1999); Assistant Governor of the African Development Bank, Djibouti (1992-1999), President of Women's Issues Ministry - IGAD (2000)
- I. Education, Academic and Professional Training: Civics and International Studies, Reims, France.
- J. Professional Memberships: n/a
- K. Previous Travel and Study in the U.S: Conference travel, NYC
- L. Language Capacity: French 4/4; English 3/3; Arabic 1/1.
- M. Post Statement: Hawa is Djibouti's first and only female minister. She is articulate, reliable and progressive - a strong voice for women's rights and other social issues. She will continue to act as strong and valuable voice of dissent in the Djiboutian government in the future, and supports many of our mission objectives re: transparency, democracy and social justice.
- N. Post Action Officer: Tiffany Bartish, Public Affairs Officer, bartishtm@state.gov, tel: 253 35 39 95 Fax: 253 35 39 40. Secondary Contact: Ismahan Osman, Public Affairs Clerk, osmania@state.gov, repeat phone and fax.

Program: Radio Broadcasting, January 31 - February 18, 2005

- A. Nominee's Full Name: Nabil Dorani
- B: Home Address:
- Telephone: 253 353928
- Email: n/a
- C. Date and Place of Birth: 7/13/53, Djibouti
- D. Gender: M
- E. Medical, Physical, Dietary, other restrictions: Muslim Diet
- F. Present Position and Title: Director of Programming at Radio Television Djibouti
- G. Current Institutional Affiliation: Radio Television Djibouti
- H. Work Experience: Assistant Director, Quidam. Director of a dozen features in Arabic and French, Producer, RTD from 1984-2000. Director of Programming, RTD since 2000
- I. Education, Academic and Professional Training: History of Film, Sorbonne. Journalism Studies, Hedeberg Foundation
- J. Professional Memberships: n/a
- K. Previous Travel and Study in the U.S.: n/a
- L. Language Capacity: Fluent in French, Somali and Arabic (4/4, 4/4, 3/3)

1M. Post Statement: RTD has become increasingly important to Embassy Djibouti as a partner institution for a multi-million dollar IBB program. In addition, as the main radio and television outlet in Djibouti, post is attempting to partner with RTD to produce short public service pieces on anti-terrorism themes, especially in Somali and French. Mr. Dorani is progressive, an important

1N. Post Action Officer: Tiffany Bartish, Public Affairs Officer, bartishtm@state.gov, tel: 253 35 39 95 Fax: 253 35 39 40. Secondary Contact: Ismahan Osman, Public Affairs Clerk, osmania@state.gov, repeat phone and fax.

Grassroots Democracy, April 11-29, 2005

1A. Nominee's Full Name: Zeinab Kamil Ali
B: Home Address: BP 259 Djibouti
Telephone: 253 35 85 07
Email: zeinab70@yahoo.com

1C. Date and Place of Birth: 7/29/1970

1D. Gender: F

1E. Medical, Physical, Dietary, other restrictions: Muslim Diet

1F. Present Position and Title: Deputy Director of Administration and Commerce, ONED (Djibouti Water Office)

1G. Current Institutional Affiliation: Ministry of Agriculture

1H. Work Experience: Mrs. Ali has worked at the Public Water Company for 12 years where she has held positions including: Chief of Personnel, Deputy Chief of Personnel, Media Liaison and Advisor to the Director General.

1I. Education, Academic and Professional Training: MA in law from the University of Besanon (France)

1J. Professional Memberships: Djiboutian Commission for Human Rights, Member of the Conseil Supérieur de la Magistrature, Member of the design Committee for the Strategy for the Reduction of Poverty.

1K. Previous Travel and Study in the U.S.

1L. Language Capacity: French 4/4, Afar 5/5.

1M. Post Statement: Mrs. Ali has introduced several measures geared at workers' rights. She is well-regarded in her Ministry and known for her integrity and vision. She is one of the few women of Afar ethnicity who play a role in the government. Indeed, most Afar women are relatively uneducated. We foresee that Mrs. Ali will continue to play an important role in government and consider her a prime candidate for a program that focuses on transparency and social action.

1N. Post Action Officer: Tiffany Bartish, Public Affairs Officer, bartishtm@state.gov, tel: 253 35 39 95 Fax: 253 35 39 40. Secondary Contact: Ismahan Osman, Public Affairs Clerk, osmania@state.gov, repeat phone and fax.